The final Berliner souvenir edition

25 of the best healthy holidays
travel→

How to go on a digital detox
weekend→

Just desserts
cook→

£2.90
Saturday 13.01.18
Published in London and Manchester
theguardian.com

theguardian

UN: Trump's remarks 'racist and shameful'

President's anti-immigration comments spark outrage and global condemnation

Patrick Wintour and Jason Burke

Donald Trump was branded a shocking and shameful racist yesterday after it was credibly reported he had described African nations, as well as Haiti and El Salvador, as "shitholes" and questioned why so many of their citizens had ever been permitted to enter the US.

American diplomats were summoned for formal reproach by African leaders, amid global shock that such crude remarks could ever be made in a semi-public meeting by a US president. In a strong statement, the UN human rights office in Geneva described Trump's remarks as "shocking and shameful" and "racist".

Trump was in damage limitation mode yesterday, having initially allowed the White House not to deny reports of his comments, made at a meeting with US senators on Thursday. He insisted he had never uttered the derogatory words, but admitted he had used "tough" language.

But Senator Dick Durbin, a Democrat who was in the meeting, contradicted him, telling local media in Chicago that "in the course of his comments he said things which were hate-filled, vile and racist".

Durbin added: "He said these hate-filled things, and he said them repeatedly."

A few hours later, at an event to honour Martin Luther King Jr, Trump ignored questions from reporters, including: "Mr President, are you a racist?"

The row about Trump's character spilled into British politics after Trump confirmed he would not visit the UK this February to open the new US embassy, claiming he did not like its "off location" in south London.

The cancellation prompted the foreign secretary, Boris Johnson, to blame the London mayor, Sadiq Khan, and the Labour leader, Jeremy Corbyn, for putting the president off a visit by threatening large-scale protests. Johnson called Khan a "puffed-up pompous popinjay" and said his opposition to the visit was endangering US investment in the UK.

Khan claimed Trump had got the message that a man so antithetical to British values was simply not welcome.

However, it was Trump's crude dismissal of African and central American nations that caused the greatest reverberations globally.

The UN's human rights spokesman, Rupert Colville, said it was impossible to describe Trump's remarks as anything other than racist. "You cannot dismiss entire countries and continents as 'shitholes' whose entire populations, who are not white, are therefore not welcome," Colville told reporters in Geneva.

He also took issue with Trump's suggestion, also made at the Thursday meeting, that the US should welcome immigrants

Continued on page 7 →

Seeking sanctuary

A campaign is under way to create the world's biggest wildlife sanctuary in the seas around Antarctica Photograph: Plain Picture/Mint Images

5 →

Launching on Monday: a new design for a new era

Katharine Viner

Welcome to the final edition of the Berliner-sized Guardian. Next week marks an important moment in our 197-year history: from Monday, we will launch a new design for our digital editions and the Guardian and Observer will both move to a tabloid-sized print format.

We bid farewell to the Berliner with pride in the ambitious, agenda-setting and visual journalism it has contained since launching in 2005. The Berliner Guardian has won many awards for its stylish design and has been a versatile and handsome canvas on which to publish brilliant interviews, scoops, investigations, features and photography. Our new format will, from Monday, offer all of that and more.

This print format change will save us millions of pounds, which we can invest in world-leading journalism. It is also an exciting opportunity to think

Continued on page 2 →

dfs SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY SAVINGS
SAVE £350 with special intro savings
FINAL DAYS
NOW ONLY £949
The Etienne large sofa
event price £999
after event £1299
£19.77 a month for 4 years
0% APR No deposit and no interest - ever!

IN ASSOCIATION WITH EARLY MAN IN CINEMAS JANUARY 26

© 2017 Studiocanal S.A.S and the British Film Institute. All Rights Reserved. Etienne large sofa, cushions included. Credit subject to acceptance. Credit is provided by external finance companies as determined by DFS. 4 years interest free credit from date of delivery. Delivery charges apply. Special introductory savings of £50 apply until 22.01.18. After event price applies from 20.02.18 - see in-store or online for details. DFS is a division of DFS Trading Ltd. Registered in England and Wales No 01735950. Redhouse Interchange, Doncaster, DN6 7NA.

dfs

12A *